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Response 3738

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Boyce et al.

Examiner: Pellegrino, Brian E.

Serial No.: 09/610,026

Group: Art Unit 3738

Filed: July 3, 2000

Docket: 285-118

For: OSTEOGENIC IMPLANTS
DERIVED FROM BONE

Dated: March 18, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

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In response to the Office Action mailed December 18, 2001, applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims for the reasons set out in the following remarks.

REMARKS:

Claims 11, 13 and 33-35 are pending herein. Of these claims, Claims 1 and 33 are in independent form and read as follows (*italics added*):

1. An osteogenic implant in the form of a flexible sheet comprising a coherent mass of bone-derived particles, the coherent mass formed at least in part from *elongate bone-derived elements* optionally in combination with bone powder, the osteoimplant possessing an *average void volume of not greater than about 32%*.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Dated: March 18, 2002


Jaksha C. Tomic